

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1 – 51 (Cancelled).

52. (Currently amended) A container comprising:

a formulation prone to skinning and a liquid formulation vapor held within the container;

and

an anti-skinning layer, wherein the entire layer is in contact with an internal surface within the container, wherein, in use, the anti-skinning layer retains a layer of the liquid formulation without excluding the formulation vapor within the ullage space of the container from contacting the layer of liquid formulation retained on the anti-skinning layer and substantially reduces the amount of skinning of the formulation.

53. (Previously presented) The container of claim 52 wherein the formulation is water based or solvent based.

54. (Previously presented) The container of claim 52 wherein:
the formulation has a certain concentration; and
the anti-skinning layer substantially maintains the concentration of any of the formulation retained on the anti-skinning layer.

55. (Previously presented) The container of claim 52 wherein the anti-skinning layer is textured.

56. (Previously presented) The container of claim 52 wherein the anti-skinning layer is a gauze lining.

57. (Previously presented) The container of claim 52 wherein the anti-skinning layer is a foam lining.

58. (Previously presented) The container of claim 52 wherein the anti-skinning layer has insulative properties.

59. (Previously presented) The container of claim 52 wherein the anti-skinning layer is integrally molded to an internal surface of the container.

60. (Previously presented) The container of claim 52 wherein the anti-skinning layer adheres to an internal surface of the container.

61. (Previously presented) The container of claim 52 wherein the anti-skinning layer is thermally bonded to an internal surface of the container.

62. (Previously presented) The container of claim 52 wherein the container is adapted to contain 10ml to 50,000 liters of the formulation.

63. (Cancelled)

64. (Previously presented) The container of claim 52 wherein the formulation prone to skinning is selected from the group consisting of a latex based paint, an alkyd paint, a flat paint, a satin paint, a semi-gloss paint, a gloss paint, a varnish, a lacquer, a glue, a resin, and a water-based ink.

65. (Currently amended) A container comprising:
a liquid formulation prone to skinning and a formulation vapor held within the container;
a container sealing means including an internal surface; and
an anti-skinning layer, wherein the entire layer is in contact with an internal surface of the container sealing means,
wherein, in use, the anti-skinning layer operates to retain a layer of the liquid formulation without excluding the formulation vapor within the ullage space of the container from contacting the layer of liquid formulation retained on the anti-skinning layer and substantially reduces the amount of skinning of the formulation.

66. (Previously presented) The container of claim 65 wherein the formulation is a solvent-based or water based formulation.

67. (Previously presented) The container of claim 65 wherein:
the formulation has a certain concentration; and
the anti-skinning layer substantially maintains the concentration of any of the formulation retained on the anti-skinning layer.

68. (Previously presented) The container of claim 65 wherein the anti-skinning layer substantially covers the internal surface of the sealing means.

69. (Previously presented) The container of claim 65 wherein the anti-skinning layer is textured.

70. (Previously presented) The container of claim 65 wherein the anti-skinning layer is a gauze lining.

71. (Previously presented) The container of claim 65 wherein the anti-skinning layer is a foam lining.

72. (Previously presented) The container of claim 65 wherein the anti-skinning layer has insulative properties.

73. (Previously presented) The container of claim 65 wherein the anti-skinning layer is integrally molded to an internal surface of the container.

74. (Previously presented) The container of claim 65 wherein the anti-skinning layer adheres to an internal surface of the container.

75. (Previously presented) The container of claim 65 wherein the anti-skinning layer is thermally bonded to an internal surface of the container.

76. (Previously presented) The container of claim 65 wherein the container is adapted to contain 10ml to 50,000 liters of the formulation.

77. (Previously presented) The container of claim 65 wherein the sealing means is a resealable lid.

78. (Cancelled).

79. (Previously presented) The container of claim 77 wherein the formulation prone to skinning is selected from the group consisting of a latex based paint, an alkyd paint, a flat paint, a satin paint, a semi-gloss paint, a gloss paint, a varnish, a lacquer, a glue, a resin, and a water-based ink.

80. (Previously presented) The container of claim 65 further comprising a second anti-skinning layer, wherein the entire layer is in contact with an internal surface within the container and extends about at least a portion of the internal surface of the container.

81. (Previously presented) The container of claim 80 wherein the second anti-skinning layer is located between a circumferential lip of the container and the formulation.

82. (Previously presented) The container of claim 80 wherein the second anti-skinning layer is textured.

83. (Previously presented) The container of claim 80 wherein the second anti-skinning layer is integrally molded to an internal surface of the container.

84. (Previously presented) The container of claim 80 wherein the second anti-skinning layer adheres to an internal surface of the container.

85. (Previously presented) The container of claim 80 wherein the second anti-skinning layer is thermally bonded to an internal surface of the container.

86. (Previously presented) The container of claim 80 wherein the second anti-skinning layer is an integrally molded series of space apart concentric ribs integrally molded to a plastics container between the top of the container proximate the sealing means to at least the formulation level.

87. (Previously presented) The container of claim 86 wherein the integrally molded series of ribs extend from the top of an internal surface of the container proximate to the sealing means substantially to a base of the container.

Claims 88.-105. (Cancelled)

106. (Currently Amended) A container comprising:
an internal surface; and
an anti-skinning layer, wherein the entire layer is in contact with an internal surface within the container for retaining layer of the liquid formulation and wherein, in use, the anti-skinning layer operates to retain a layer of the liquid formulation without excluding the formulation vapor

within the ullage space of the container from contacting the layer of liquid formulation retained on the anti-skinning layer and substantially reduces the amount of skinning of the formulation.

107. (Previously presented) The container of claim 106 wherein the formulation prone to skinning is water-based or solvent-based.

108. (Previously presented) The container of claim 106 wherein the formulation prone to skinning operates to maintain the concentration of the layer of formulation retained.

109. (Cancelled).

110. (Previously presented) The container of claim 106 further comprising a sealing means, wherein the sealing means includes an anti-skinning layer of and wherein the anti-skinning layer has a thickness of approximately 0.001 to 5 mm.

111. (Previously presented) The container of claim 110 wherein the anti-skinning layer substantially covers an internal surface of the sealing means.

112. (Previously presented) The container of claim 106 wherein the anti-skinning layer is textured.

113. (Previously presented) The container of claim 106 wherein the anti-skinning layer is a gauze lining.

114. (Previously presented) The container of claim 106 wherein the anti-skinning layer is a foam lining.

115. (Previously presented) The container of claim 106 wherein the anti-skinning layer has insulative properties.

116. (Previously presented) The container of claim 106 wherein the anti-skinning layer is integrally molded to the internal surface of the container.

117. (Previously presented) The container of claim 106 wherein the anti-skinning layer adheres to the internal surface of the container.

118. (Previously presented) The container of claim 106 wherein the anti-skinning layer is constructed of material selected from the group consisting of woven polyolefin cloth, unwoven polyolefin cloth, gauze, artificial grass matting and glass fiber felt.

119. (Previously presented) The container of claim 110 wherein the anti-skinning layer is thermally bonded to a plastics sealing means.

120. (Previously presented) The container of claim 119 wherein the plastic sealing means is a resealable lid.